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Civil Servants Discuss Food Provision Policies

Department Sponsored Seminar To Consider New Services

KABUL, Oct. 6, (Bakhtar).—Welfare for civil servants is under discussion at a three-day seminar opened yesterday at the food procurement department.

The seminar is attended by representatives of the department, civil servants from various ministries and several economists.

Opening the seminar, President of the Food Procurement Department Dost Mohammad Fazl said the idea of a seminar discussion of the problems of providing civil servants with food and other essentials was first advanced by the daily *Salah*.

"We considered the proposal a worthwhile one and have invited you to take part in these discussions," he said.

Roughly half of the seminar time will be given to a food procurement department personnel review of what has been accomplished, what can be done in the future, and what the expectations of civil servants are as far as they understand.

The rest of the time will be devoted to the participants' views, with subsequent discussion of them.

The food procurement department was established three years ago with a capital of one billion afghanis. Its main duty is to keep food stuff rates stable on the market to protect the farmers from steep drops in rates and those with fixed incomes from so-

aring prices.

The operation of the department includes the purchasing and storage of wheat and the enlarging of storage capacities.

The department has provided wheat and edible oil to some 40,000 civil servants in Kabul with rates substantially lower than those on the market.

The predecessors of the department, however, such as the Civil Servants' Cooperative, provided sugar, soap, cloth and ready-made clothing as well.

The seminar will decide whether the department should take up added responsibilities or continue along its present lines of operation.



President of the Food Procurement Department Dost Mohammad Fazl speaking at the opening session of the seminar.

World Bank Approves \$75M. To Strengthen IDA

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—The Board of Governors of the World Bank voted on Friday to transfer \$75 million of the bank's 1968 fiscal earnings to the affiliated International Development Association (IDA) for long-term loans to developing countries.

The development association which recently has been low on funds, makes low-interest, long-term (as much as 40-year) loans for economic development to member countries which cannot afford the cost of regular loans.

The remaining portion of the bank's 1968 earnings, \$94.1 million, will be transferred to the bank's supplemental reserve. Total reserves, including the special reserve, will amount to \$1,254 million.

In other action at the closing session of the annual meeting held in conjunction with the International Monetary Fund, the governors:

—Elected the governor of Argentina as the chairman for the coming year and the governors of Belgium and Nepal as vice chairmen. They will serve through the 1969 annual meeting which will be held in Washington.

—Elected a joint producers committee to serve for the coming year under the chairmanship of Argentina and the vice chairmanship of Argentina and the vice chairmanship of Belgium and Nepal. Other members of the committee are Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, France, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Italy, Kuwait, Libya, the Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, United States and Zambia.

Ziayee Cites World Bank, Int'l Monetary Fund Achievements

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—The achievements of the World Bank demonstrate what can be done through international cooperation, Finance Minister Mohammad Anwar Ziayee says.

Addressing a joint meeting of the governors of the Bank and the International Monetary Fund Thursday, Ziayee said:

"Looking over the entire balance sheet of efforts and accomplishments, it seems to me that the past year, while beset with difficult problems for both organizations, nevertheless demonstrated again that with international cooperation unique achievements can be obtained."

Ziayee cited some of these achievements as approval by the majority of the countries of the Special Drawing Rights system, the special contributions of certain countries to strengthen resources of the International Development Association, and the adoption of the two-tier system for gold.

The Afghan finance minister, who is also governor of the World Bank for this country, said:

"It is gratifying to note the growth in the number of member countries of the (International Monetary) Fund in the last 22 years. Also important has been the growth in the resources of the Fund over these years. It is a source of confidence that the Fund has developed into an organization that can with coordinated contributions of members meet the challenges of maintenance of international monetary stability. The Fund deserves our enthusiastic congratulations."

Ziayee headed the Afghan delegation to the annual meeting here of the international finance

organizations. Others in the delegation are Habibullah Mali Achakzai, governor, Da Afghanistan Bank; Abdul Aziz Atayee, president, treasury department, Ministry of Finance; Dr. Mohammad Aman, president, Industrial Bank; and Ghulam Hussain Jawini, director general, foreign trade department, Da Afghanistan Bank.

More than 1000 financial experts—governors, advisers and observers—from 111 countries attended the one-week meeting.

CDU Likely To Nominate Schroeder For FRG Presidency

BONN, Oct. 6, (AFP).—The Christian Democratic Union (CDU) is likely to present Defence Minister Gerhard Schroeder as candidate for next summer's presidential election, press reports said here yesterday.

According to the reports, Schroeder has not yet made up his mind whether to accept the candidacy.

But on the other hand he has reportedly done nothing to put an end to other CDU leaders, talk about promoting him as a successor to the outgoing president, Heinrich Lübke.

The West German press takes this as an indication that Schroeder is ready to run for Lübke's office—all the more so since he has reportedly lost all hope of one day becoming chancellor after failing twice.

He was an unsuccessful candidate for the chancellorship both when Ludwig Erhard took over from the late Konrad Adenauer and when the present chancellor, Kurt-Georg Kiesinger, succeeded Erhard.

Commentators here consider that Schroeder would be certain to be elected by the Bundestag and the "electors" named by the provincial assemblies.

They feel he would receive the backing of a large majority of Christian Democratic members of the electoral college—composed half and half by parliamentarians and provincial representatives—as well as the liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP) now in opposition.

Schroeder was a strong supporter of the Christian Democratic coalition with the FDP which broke up with the fall of the Erhard cabinet two years ago.

According to press reports here, the CDU would prefer Schroeder as federal president rather than Bundestag President Eugen Gerstner.

U Thant Hasn't Abandoned Hope For Big-4 Summit

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 6, (Reuters).—UN Secretary-General U Thant indicated yesterday that he was still hopeful a summit conference preceded by a Big Four foreign ministers' meeting would take place.

He told reporters that discussions on the matter were still going on along the lines he suggested in his annual report to the UN General Assembly 10 days ago.

Despite public statements expressing coolness towards the idea, whether the United States, which Britain has turned down the suggestion, directly to U Thant, informed sources said.

There has been no official comment by the Russian and the French.

U Thant said he had no plans for an early meeting with either U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk or Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, but he has already had talks with them.

Rusk will be Gromyko's host at a working dinner today. It will be their third meeting since they came here for the UN General Assembly.

KABUL, Oct. 6, (Bakhtar).—Kabul Traffic Director Saadullah Yousofi left Kabul for Vienna yesterday. He will participate in an international seminar on traffic regulations.

The seminar aims at unifying traffic regulations and signs throughout the world, Yousofi said.

Soviet-Arab Council Condemns Continued Israeli Aggression

MOSCOW, Oct. 6, (Tass).—Representatives of the Soviet peace committee and the UAR peace council have strongly condemned Israel for the continuation of its aggressive policy, says the communiqué on talks between these two organiza-

tions. The delegation of UAR peace champions, headed by the vice-chairman of the peace council El-Hawaga, stayed in the USSR from September 23rd at the invitation of the peace committee.

Apart from Moscow, it visited Leningrad and Tashkent. The delegation left for home yesterday.

The main task of the peace champions in the Middle East at present is the struggle for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied Arab territories, for the liquidation of the consequences of Israeli aggression, for the settlement of the Middle Eastern problem on the basis of the United Nations resolution of Nov. 22, 1967, the communiqué stresses.

The UAR delegation expressed gratitude to the Soviet people and government for their support of the Arab nations.

Representatives of the peace champions of the USSR and the UAR demanded an immediate and unconditional discontinuance of the war in Vietnam.

The sides noted that active struggle against different manifestations of imperialist ideology has become particularly acute in the present conditions.

They expressed "full support to measures in defence of socialist achievements in Czechoslovakia, undertaken by the five socialist states".

The sides declared their support to the International Conference of Solidarity with Peoples of Africa which is to be held in Sudan next January.

UK Theatre Group Visits Kabul

By Our Own Reporter

Three professional actors performed in Kabul this week at the invitation of the British Council and the Kabul Amateur Dramatic Society. They were Geoffrey Kendal, his wife Laura, and Marcus Murch.

The group is based in India, where they have toured extensively and acquired a reputation for bringing Shakespeare to life in schools and colleges, performing scenes from various plays.

They have made a film of their adventures in the travelling theatre, called "Shakespearewallah".

In Kabul University auditorium, these three versatile artists, with changes of costume, yesterday presented "The Merchant of Venice" and the comic scenes of "Twelfth Night", in less than two hours, to a student audience.

In addition, they gave two evening performances at the British Council of "Dear Liar", a skilful evocation of the love letters of George Bernard Shaw and the actress Mrs. Patric Campbell.

Thai Drug Agents After Smugglers

BANGKOK, Oct. 6, (Reuters).—Police are looking for a 42-year-old woman and a wealthy man in Bangkok believed to be involved in a big drug smuggling ring operating between Thailand and Japan.

Narcotics Inspector Lieutenant-Colonel Paramul Wanikaphad said an arrest warrant had been issued for the woman named as Mrs. Suda Saisri, but the identity of the man, described as the leader of the ring, has not been disclosed.

He said that Mrs. Suda helped in the smuggling of heroin worth 107 million baht (more than two million sterling) into Japan.

Lieutenant Colonel Prama, inspector of narcotics, told reporters Friday that a former boatswain of the government-owned freighter "Srithep", had confessed that he took the drugs to Japan and handed them over to Mrs. Suda at Shimizu Harbour on July 15.

Mrs. Suda flew back to Bangkok from Japan on July 20 and then disappeared from her residence, Col. Prama added.

The leader of the smuggling ring with "a house as big as a palace" in the Thai capital had also disappeared from his home, he said.

Soviet Friendship Group Feted As Tour Here Ends

KABUL, Oct. 6, (Bakhtar).—President of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society Mohammad Asghar last night gave a reception in honour of the visiting delegation from the Soviet-Afghan Friendship Society.

The reception, held in Kabul Hotel, was attended by Deputy Information and Culture Minister Mohammad Khaled Roshan, Soviet Ambassador Alexandrov and members of the Afghan-Union Friendship Society.

During its four-day stay here, the Soviet delegation visited Salang, Nangarhar and Kabul.

Thieu Invites Exiled General To Serve As Senior Advisor

SAIGON, Oct. 6, (Reuters).—General Duong Van "Big" Minh, who led the 1963 coup which toppled President Ngo Dinh Diem, returned home yesterday after nearly four hours of exile in Thailand.

General Minh was invited back by President Nguyen Van Thieu to work as a senior advisor in strengthening the popular appeal of his administration.

The general—he is called Big Minh because of his size—is a Buddhist and is popular with South Vietnam's Buddhists who form a majority of the population.

Thieu had a helicopter waiting at the airport yesterday when the exiled general arrived. It was waiting to fly him to an immediate audience at the presidential palace. He was met by his family and friends.

But instead General Minh drove into town in an old car surrounded by relatives and holding a grandson on his lap.

Before getting into the car, General Minh said he had been dis-

tressed by the war damage he had seen from the aircraft flying into Saigon and was ready to serve the country again.

Yesterday was the second time he had left Thailand to return home. The first time, in 1965, his aircraft was turned back in mid-air.

The general was forced into exile after being in power for three months when another military faction ousted him in a bloodless coup.

Massive security precautions were in force for his arrival. Armed police guarded the airport and every intersection; the main road leading to it. Foreign pressmen were not allowed to enter the airport.

A police spokesman said the precautions were normal. But sources said the precautions were taken on the orders of prime minister Tran Van Huong to counter taken on the orders of Prime Minister Tran Van Huong to counter any demonstrations by militant Buddhists.

Computer Helps Rebuild Temple Near Cairo

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 6, (Reuters).—An American computer is reconstructing an ancient Egyptian temple which has been rubble for 3,318 years.

The temple, about 470 miles north of Cairo, is now about 25,000 sandstone blocks, excavated by archaeologists over several years.

After the present photographic reconstruction, archaeologists hope to reassemble the actual building at some future date.

Each of the blocks is photographed and minute descriptive details are coded and fed into the computer which will give instructions on how to re-erect the temple.

"A printed sheet comes out and says you can fit block 769 to block 5,642 and so on. Photographs of each piece are then matched and reassembled," Dr. Frolich, G. Rainey, director of the university museum of the university of Pennsylvania, says.

The temple was once part of a complex of public buildings erected during the reign of the sun-worshipping Akhnaton (also Ikhnaton) of the 18th dynasty.

The ambitious project of fitting together this jigsaw puzzle is being undertaken by University of Pennsylvania, the department of antiquities of the United Arab Republic, the International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) Egyptian and American scholars and technicians.

Uganda High Court Jails Conspirators In Anti-Gov't. Plot

KAMPALA, Oct. 6, (AFP).—The Uganda High Court handed out jail sentences to three men convicted of plotting to overthrow the government.

Ernesti Oanyja senior medical assistant, alleged to be the ringleader, got life imprisonment.

Zadok Brown, television worker and Henry Kyeune, radio worker, were each sentenced to eight years.

High Court Judge Justice Russell acquitted three other men and a woman after he found there was insufficient evidence against them—but all were detained by police as they left the court.

During the trial, spread out over several weeks, four government officials said they infiltrated secret meetings disguised as Southern Sudanese guerrilla fighters.



A rolled umbrella for Kabul



THE KABUL TIMES

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Primary Ed: How Elementary Should It Be?

With the promulgation of the new decree-law on education, the country's efforts toward the advancement of modern education at all levels should become more streamlined and effective. The law deals in an elaborate manner with all levels of education, setting directives and guidelines.

Although the law does not so state, primary education terminates when students graduate from the sixth grade. And the target of primary education, as mentioned in the law, is to enable students to acquire literacy and basic knowledge and to participate meaningfully in the national life.

While the targets for primary education have been admirably selected, it is necessary to review the methods of reaching these set targets. It is important that in outlining this method, the technical and financial limitations of the country be taken into consideration. It is an undeniable fact that although we have, during the recent years, established quite a number of primary schools in the capital and the provinces, the shortage of properly trained teachers and the lack of teaching materials and text books is seriously hampering the effectiveness of primary education.

It is encouraging that the nation is witnessing a reversal in the attitude toward modern education. There was time when people used to go to all lengths to avoid registering their sons and daughters in schools. However, recently, after realising the advantages of education, they are not only registering their children at the schools voluntarily, but are also assisting the educational authorities in setting up new schools. Hardly a day passes without news of individuals and groups donating cash or material which will help provide

Food For Thought

While we stop to think, we often miss our opportunity.

Publius Syrus

ids, teaching aids for a school or assist in the establishment of a new school.

Drawing on this change of attitude, what steps should be taken toward making primary education more effective?

Although it is the duty of education experts and proper authorities to study this problem in greater detail, yet some general observations may be made. First of all, there have been many complaints about curricula in the primary schools.

The general feeling of parents and students alike seems to be that too many subjects are taught by teachers who are inadequately trained in modern teaching methods. If these complaints have a sound basis, there is a need for reviewing the curricula of primary schools. The basic line of thinking should be sympathetic, not towards those students who on graduation from the primary schools join the middle and high schools, but for those who due to one reason or another cannot continue with their higher education.

At the present, a sixth-grade graduate is a great misfit in the society. He cannot find a regular job in any governmental or non-governmental organisation, nor will he be satisfied in going back to the farm to help his parents which he would have done otherwise had he not joined the school in the first place.

Some countries, in an attempt to overcome this basic problem, have raised the level of their primary education to the ninth or eighth grade instead of the sixth. Admittedly this entails more funds and expenditures, but in the general interest of the country, it deserves consideration.

Pope: We Must Move With The Times

Following is a speech by Education Minister and First Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Ali Ahmad Popsi delivered September 29 at the annual meeting of the provincial education directors.

4. Significant studies have been made on the improvement of the quality of education. We hope you will be satisfied with the results of these probings, but, nevertheless, we expect you to express your own opinions on the matter.

5. Arrangements will be made in the university so that students devote more attention to studies and become more active in the administrative and economic activities by organising debates on present-day issues, especially those relating to the social, political and economic situation of the country.

6. The education system will not be stagnant body. I want an active, dynamic institution in which the spirit of cooperation, sincerity and selflessness will triumph over destructive, lethargic elements.

Hence, in accordance with the nation's laws, we shall purge the education system of undesirable elements.

7. God is the witness that there is nothing personal in this. The sole and only consideration is the good of the nation and the country, the progress of Afghanistan, and better education for our youth.

7. Attempts will be made to improve the operation of the Pashtu Academy and ensure cooperation between this institution and all departments of the university, especially with the college of letters and other academic institutions concerned with the Pashto language.

8. Closer relations will be established with international academic institutions, especially those of the friendly countries which cooperate with us in the development of science and technology and in the dissemination of knowledge.

During your discussions you will be informed of the re-establishment of the National Commission of UNESCO, the objective of which is a more fruitful cooperation with various branches of that international organisation.

9. Better and closer contacts will be established with all sections of the nation, especially parents, writers and scholars, and publications so that they may be our guide in those issues of education which are a concern of all of us.

I assure all these circles that the Ministry of Education and its staff will lend an ear to all views and will give due consideration to all proposals put forward to us.

10. We will seek the help of well-informed religious figures who are aware of the reality of Islam law and the requirements of the time, science and technology in strengthening institutions for religious training and for compiling textbooks on religion for regular schools.

11. We must devote attention to the improvement of the character of our students, as well as the improvement of instruction.

12. Objective instruction is a desirable thing, but, nevertheless, we will devise our curricula so that a special place will be given to the teaching of our own history, geography and culture, and the nation's social, political, and economic issues.

A committee will be appointed to consider the local needs of the provinces, which, owing to varying conditions, differ from province to province.

Attempts will be made to change all schools to community institutions so that they may take a more active part in the enlightenment of the people.

Special consideration should be

given to educating the farming population, which is the largest sector of our people. They should learn the basics of religion, better methods of cultivation, and some crafts and learn their own and others' rights and obligations.

The farmers should be able to gainfully employ their spare time in engaging in handicrafts. This seminar should discuss ways the schools in cooperation with other local organisations, can contribute to promotion of skills of farming populations in various areas of the country.

With the enumeration of these points, we have not nearly exhausted the issues of education. Many of our social and education issues need thorough reforming.

This, however, can not be achieved by the Ministry of Education alone. Social and economic change touches the life of the entire nation, and the making of any progress in this respect also depends on a concerted effort by the entire nation.

I shall be pleased if contacts are made with organisations outside the Ministry of Education on this topic.

The final point which I would like to make is that the Education Ministry enjoys the good-will of His Majesty the King, the support of representatives of the nation and of all the elite.

During the last ten months I have worked here. I have been in close contact, on a personal basis, with the young and old, and I assure you, all want the prosperity and progress of Afghanistan more than anything else.

The showing of concern, restlessness, differences in opinion, and on the surface, adherence to different schools of thought and politics, in my opinion, result from a desire to achieve this objective of progress, without in anyway damaging the culture, heritage and integrity of the nation.

(CONCLUDED)

HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

Yesterday's *Israh* carried an editorial entitled "The Afghan Carpet". An international trade institute delegation has recently arrived in this country to look into the possibilities of promoting Afghanistan's trade with the outside world.

Afghanistan has a limited number of items for export and carpets rank high among them.

In the former days, the editorial went on, when the European countries did not have their own economic problems to the extent they have today and when the Afghan carpet did not have as strong competitors as it has today, carpets used to bring good money and had a ready market in Europe.

But, asserted the editorial, things have changed now.

The Europeans, with their economic and financial commitments in their own countries and elsewhere, look at items imported from the east, including the carpets, as luxury goods and think twice before buying them.

On the other hand there is strong competition from various other producers. The establishment of the Common Market is another factor to the detriment of exports from developing countries.

The Common Market countries while abolishing trade barriers between one another have created higher tariffs against imports from non-member countries.

The editorial also mentioned the monotony in design and the deterioration in quality as other factors leading to the stagnation of our carpet trade.

It urged the authorities and traders either to find new markets or introduce radical changes in the quality and design of carpets in order to satisfy the European customers who are difficult to please.

The editorial also called on the international commerce institute delegation to study our carpet problems and then urge the industrialised nations and financial organisations to render assistance needed for improving the production and marketing of the Afghan carpets.

The paper also carried a letter to the editor congratulating the Ministry of Public Health in discovering that some pharmacies were dispensing false medicine.

The letter, however, said that the concerned authorities should also

take appropriate measures to curb the same sort of practice in other vital fields. It specially referred to the flour which is provided by the food grain department to government officials against their coupons.

In most cases the flour contains alien materials such as sand, dust and inferior quality flour made out of grinding millet, barley, maize etc.

The letter said food is far more important than medicine because it is every one's need whereas medicine is needed only by sick persons. It claimed that 90 per cent of the ordinary sicknesses in this country are due to bad food. Any step to-

wards improving the food situation will be conducive to improving public health as well, said the editorial, hoping that the authorities would adopt necessary measures in that connection.

Yesterday's *Anis* carried an editorial on the teacher shortage.

After stressing the importance of overcoming this shortage, the editorial suggested that one way to achieve this would be to exempt the 200 or 300 high school and college graduates who are drafted by the army each year from the military service and make them teach classes after taking intensive teacher-training courses.

World Press

The semi-official daily, *Al Ahrar* Friday claimed Britain had asked Israel to make an official statement, announcing its total acceptance of the United Nations Security Council resolution calling for a settlement of the Middle East crisis.

The newspaper said that according to the British view the announcement should be made by Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban in the speech he is to deliver in the general debate of the United Nations General Assembly.

Al Ahrar said the British had asked that Eban state specifically that Israel was prepared to carry out all the provisions contained in the resolution which among other things urges the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab territory occupied as a result of the 1967 six-day June 1967 war.

The newspaper also said that Britain had informed Israel that the Arab countries' decision at their summit in Khartoum last summer against a peace treaty with Israel was not incompatible with acceptance of a political solution of the problem.

Al Ahrar made this point after referring to recent talks in London between United Arab Republic Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad and British Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart.

In a leading article headed "Three Merchants of Death" the liberal *Guardian* Fridays slammed the

British, French and Soviet governments for supplying arms for the Nigerian civil war.

And it appealed to the British and French to get together and stop the flow to both sides.

"Blatantly," it wrote, "are now using French arms to kill Nigerians, Nigerians are using British arms to kill Biafrans. Meanwhile, the French and British governments, (French denies notwithstanding), try to ensure that neither side runs short of ammunition."

"For the Europeans on the sidelines this ought to be a shameful situation. The British government should at once consult with the French though on present form they are unlikely to—in an attempt to stop the flow of arms to both sides."

The *Guardian* reminded readers that the Labour Party executive Thursday agreed that the British government should stop arming federal Nigeria "if there is a possibility of ending this war by stopping the supply of arms."

That possibility might now exist, it said, if Britain and France issued a joint ultimatum to Biafra and Nigeria, calling on them to stop fighting or do without their supplies.

"Neither France nor Britain is the sole supplier of arms to Biafra or Nigeria," it went on, "the Russians are in Nigeria too and if either side felt able to carry on the other would not give up."

WHO: 1967/68

Medical Research Projects In S.E. Asia

Following is the annual report of WHO Regional Director for South-East Asia, Dr. V. T. H. Guarnieri presented by him to the Regional Committee meeting at the 21st session in New Delhi on 17 September which reviews some of the more important medical research projects in Southeast Asia which have received grants from the World Health Organisation.

Research work on malaria, under the WHO Headquarters research programme, was continued during 1967/68 in the following institutions in the South-East Asia region: National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi; chemotherapeutic studies of diethylcarbamazine in association with pyrimethamine and sulfones and sulfonamides are being undertaken to determine their effect on *P. gallinaceum*, *P. berghei* and *P. cynomolgi* infections in avian, rodent and simian malaria. Studies of normal strains of these species as well as of strains resistant to pyrimethamine are also being planned.

Department of Zoology, University of Bangalore: studies on the cytogenesis of salivary gland chromosomes of *A. culicifacies* and *A. fluviatilis* are being continued, and investigations with a view to assessing possible hybrid sterility on crossing these two species are planned.

Faculty of Tropical Medicine, University of Medical Sciences, Bangkok: continuing studies with reference to haemoglobinopathies in relation to malaria in Thailand have revealed that in terms of infection rates and parasite densities, haemoglobin E and thalassemia traits (R and B) do not confer any selective advantage for *P. falciparum* infection.

Tuberculosis: The Tuberculosis Field Research Unit in Madanapalle (India), which is being assisted with a WHO Headquarters research grant, continued its studies. Preliminary reports were prepared dealing with observations on the protective effect of BCG vaccination in a South Indian rural population, and also thiacetazone and RAS sensitivity and the virulence of strains of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, isolated from an Indian rural population in guinea pigs.

Other studies under way have continued at the Tuberculosis Chemotherapy Centre, Madras, and at the National Tuberculosis Institute, Bangalore.

Smallpox: The smallpox research unit at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Madras, assisted by a further research grant by WHO Headquarters, has continued its studies on the epidemiology and immunology of smallpox.

Because of the size of the problem, leprosy control presents a major challenge and calls for continuous research in both treatment and prevention. Leprosy/BCG trial assisted

by WHO Headquarters is being continued in a highly endemic area of Burma, and WHO is conducting an inter-project evaluation of this trial, along with those under way in Uganda, in order to elucidate the possible factors responsible for any differences in their results.

General diseases:

Reference procedures on the sensitivity of gonococcus to antibiotics need to be established on a firm footing. Work on this subject has been started in Ceylon and Thailand, with the collaboration of the WHO International Reference Centre on Gonococci in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Typhoid: In Indian Council of Medical Research, in cooperation with a number of health institutions in India and with WHO, is initiating a controlled trial of oral typhoid vaccine.

Haemorrhagic fever: The WHO Headquarters, Aedes Research Unit in Bangkok continued its investigations and has recorded successful experiments to reduce the Aedes mosquito population by using "Abate"—a larvicide in the water containers which are the breeding places of these mosquitoes.

The ultra-low volume spraying technique, using malathion, against Aedes mosquitoes, which has been carried out in Bangkok and Thonburi, showed it to be a method of rapidly controlling the mosquitoes in a large area as a means of epidemic control.

(Continued on page 4)

XIX Olympiad: Mexican Stadium Houses Over 100,000

Because of its size and its impressive architectural design, the Estadio Azteca, one of the most outstanding of the sports sites which will be used during the Games of the XIX Olympiad.

This great stadium was designed and built by two Mexican architects, Pedro Ramirez Vazquez and Rafael Mijares. It was inaugurated in 1968 and has since been the scene of many football matches of the Mexican League.

It was built entirely by private investors and was specially designed for football games.

Because of its modernity, functional design and large seating capacity for more than one hundred thousand spectators, the Azteca Stadium was offered to the Organising Committee of the Games of the XIX Olympiad as an appropriate site for the more important games of the Olympic football tournament, including the semi-finals on October 22, the play-off for third and fourth places on October 24 and the finals to determine the Olympic champion and runner-up on Saturday, October 26.

The playing field of the stadium is of regulation dimensions (105 X 68 metres minimum and 120 X 90 metres maximum). It runs north and south, to place both competing teams on equal terms of wind and sun. The total built-up

area of stadium covers 61,242 square metres and the entire unit, including the parking lots, has a total area of 247,820 square metres.

During constructions, 180 million cubic metres of lava rock from eruptions of the Xitle volcano several thousand years ago had to be removed. The construction required 22,000 cubic metres of concrete with 8,000 tons of reinforcing rods thicker than a man's arm. An additional 1200 tons of steel reinforcing was also used. Special elevating equipment was to move these great amounts of material.

The viewing stands have been built to resist a strain of 950 kilograms per square metre.

The playing field is one of the most functional in the world, due to a novel and efficient drainage system. It is planted in five varieties of grass which is constantly fertilised and moved with power equipment. The field is always read for play at all times, as the five types of grass furnish an all-season and all-weather growing carpet while the drainage system provides a quick run-off even during heavy rain storms.

The installations for athletes include four dressing rooms so that four different teams can be accommodated at the same time, and massage room, hydrotherapy ba-

ths, an office for each coach, and sanitary facilities.

The installations for the press and other information services include accommodations for 226 persons, telephones, a private parking lot, a club and a lounge, a waiting room, a cafeteria and lavatories. The press box in the stands is equipped with palette desks large enough to accommodate a portable typewriter, a desk tray and a television set. The radio broadcasting teams have been provided with thirty "positions" with four to six seats each. The television and motion picture units have assigned private boxes to position the cameras in four locations to cover the best shooting angles.

The stadium has a seating capacity of over one hundred thousand and can be completely emptied in 18 minutes by the ramps and emergency exits. In this respect it is only surpassed by the football stadium in Rome which can be emptied in 17 minutes.

The outside areas surrounding the stadium cover 188,678 square metres to provide easy access and departure by the general public via a parking lot for 6,000 automobiles and private parking space for an additional 1,750 cars reserved for the "private boxes".

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BOOK SHELF

Les Cavaliers:

Kessel Novel Immortalises
3 Men, A Horse, And A Game

By Leon B. Kessel. The Horsemen, Arthur Barker Ltd., London, 1968. Now that the Buzkashi season has again come to Kabul, it seems timely for readers interested in a good adventure yarn about the chapandaz, the Buzkashi riders, to read this translation from the French by Patrick O'Brien of Joseph Kessel's classic *Les Cavaliers*.

It is rumoured in Kabul that the French edition of this book has alone been responsible for the enormous increases in French tourists coming to Afghanistan in the past two years. Whether the book can actually take credit for this phenomenon, it is a fact that its florid and highly romanticised style is much more likely to appeal to French tastes than to others.

The story ranges in setting from Afghan Turkestan to Kabul. Essentially, it is a tale of three men and a horse. Of the four, Jehol, the horse, emerges as the most real and admirable protagonist. The two chapandaz, father and son, are not only passionate about Buzkashi but also envious of each other.

Tursen, the father, is a retired chapandaz, famed throughout the land in his day, who secretly resents his son's rising prowess in the game and feels secretly guilty about it.

He takes out his guilty repressions by displaying at all times a fierce, authoritarian attitude, and a misplaced pride which goes so far as to force him to hide from his servants the fact that his old muscles are stiff on first awakening. Uroz, the son, resents being in his father's famous shadow and feels secretly guilty about it.

He takes out his guilty repressions on Mokkhi, a poor and faithful groom whom he deliberately corrupts in the course of a wild and apparently pointless trek over the Hindu Kush.

This mad ride is undertaken after Uroz, charged and with a broken leg escapes from a Kabul hospital after losing a crucial Buzkashi game.

His wounded pride drives him to the prodigious ride over some of the toughest mountain passes in

the world accompanied only by the faithful groom, Mokkhi. Just to increase the odds against his ever getting over these formidable mountains alive, Uroz masochistically sets out to tempt Mokkhi to kill him and steal Jehol, the superb horse which Mokkhi loves and secretly covets.

Interwoven throughout this rather unlikely tale there is an attempt to give it some aura of mysticism by the periodic appearance of a sort of Afghan Wandering Jew named Guard Gue (was there ever such a name in Afghanistan?) referred to in the book as the "Ancestor of All the World".

This character pops up at the most unlikely times and places in the story, but adds little of substance to it except that he is presumably, in some obscure manner responsible for the reconciliation of father and son and Uroz's repentance and resolve to become a champion one-legged chapandaz.

Kessel is of course a fine writer as he demonstrated in *The Lion* and his descriptions contrived with a practiced eye search out and record the majestic landscapes of Afghanistan and the nuances of Afghan character with considerable finesse and talent.

Of course his imaginary reconstruction of the physical and mental life of the great Buzkashi players is just that—imaginary.

Good Buzkashi players are certainly appreciated in Afghanistan but they are not idolised nearly to the extent that sports stars are deified in the West.

This novel, however, must not be tested in the crucible of verisimilitude. If one accepts it for what it is, a tale of high adventure in a splendid and romantic setting then reading it is its own reward.

Applying such a test the inevitable comparison with James Mitchell's *Caravans* immediately arises, and there is, hardly a doubt, that Kessel's work is superior in any of the dimensions by which this type of novel should be judged.

But then isn't that really damning The Horsemen with faint praise?

Sanctuary Summit
Of World Faiths
To Meet In India

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6—Representatives of the world's major religious faiths will attend a spiritual summit conference in Bangalore, India, Oct. 23-26 to consider establishing a world council of religions to enhance the role of religion in the affairs of mankind, the Temple of Understanding Incorporated (TUI), has announced.

TUI, which is sponsoring the conference, is a nonprofit organization founded in 1960 by Mrs. Eleanor Hollister of Greenwich, Connecticut, to promote religious understanding in the world.

TUI Executive Director Finley D. Dunne said Thursday that conference participants are expected to include: Her Majesty the Gyalmo of Sikkim, the governor of West Bengal, the Roman Catholic archbishop of Darjeeling, the Buddhist Dalai Lama of Tibet, the high priest of Shintoism from Aizu Shrine, Nagoya, Japan.

Other faiths and their representatives include:

Hinduism: Swami Chinmayanandji, Dr. V. Raghavan, of the University of Madras, and Professor (Continued on page 4)

Iranian Artists To Visit Afghanistan



Mrs. Sarjeh, announcer



Mrs. Huma Parvow, announcer



Mrs. Khatera Parwana, singer



Mrs. Afsana, singer



Mrs. Haida Akhondzadeh, national dancer

A group of 20 artists from Iran are to visit Kabul next week.

The group includes members of the Iranian Institute of Fine Arts and singers and instrumentalists from radio and television.

The group will give performances on the occasion of His Majesty's birthday on October 14.

Khatera Parwana, the renowned vocalist, who has already visited Afghanistan two times, is also included in the group.

Indian Folk Dances Still

There, amidst the cluster of huts, women who dance with abandon are engulfed in the mood created.

Out of the depths of the night, the far-away sound of the drum draws the wayfarer to the village.

There, amidst the cluster of huts, the drummer is swaying with the rhythm of the feet of men and women who dance with abandon. The young and old of the village surround the group and they too are engulfed in the mood created by the dancers.

Originating centuries back in the harvest festivals of our ancient ancestors, when the gods were invoked through chanting of verses and rhythmic movements of the body, the folk dances of India, even today, retain the same primeval vitality.

These dances speak of the simple emotions that fill a man whose destiny is wrapped up with the destiny of the land he cultivates. If the rains do not come, the land stands cracked and thirsty, and the farmer is gripped with despair. In the countryside, life revolves around going to the well, milking the cow, churning the butter, ploughing the field, the plough, gathering the harvest.

It is these simple acts that are given expression by the folk dances of India.

Diverse are the people living in the Valley of the Brahmaputra and on the surrounding hills. In the valley they are Assamese speaking and in the plains are the tribes with their own language and customs.

These differences are beautifully portrayed through the dances of this region. The Bihu dances usher in the Assamese New Year. Young men and women dance to the drum, the small flay cymbals and the buffalo horn pipe. They sometimes break into the Huchari, a circular dance which invokes the blessings of God for the coming year.

Some of the most picturesque and vigorous of India's folk dances are done by the Nagas. They inhabit the land between Assam and North Burma. The Naga dancers with their war paint, headgear of horns or feathers, with shining armlets holding the spear are imposing—look at before the break into dance.

The Lai Haroba, one of the most ancient dances of Manipur, tells of the mysteries of God to man. Its sensuous movements keep one enraptured as do the religious songs that accompany the dance.

The court, the temple and the stage dances that developed in ancient India through the patronage of the court, do not seem to have flourished in Bengal.

After the fall of the Pala and Sena dynasties, there was no imperial court to offer its patronage to the classical form of dancing. Bengal was ruled between the 11th and 18th centuries by small potentates who had no imperial culture to impose and so the tribal arts flourished without interference.

The Bengal folk dances are marked by their vigor and the absence of the soft, swaying movements associated with oriental dances.

The instruments accompanying the folk dances, not excluding the dances of women, is the drum. The softest of Bengal folk dances, the Bhangra, done only by women, is also accompanied by the Virile Dhol (drum).

Retain Primeval Vitality

This tradition of folk dancing is so stylised that it often gives an appearance of being a classical dance form.

The people of Himachal Pradesh enclosed by the majestic Himalayan mountains seem to live by dance and music and there is no occasion that is too insignificant for them to come out in their ceremonial dresses and start without persuasion a group dance that speaks of romance, or religious fervor or of the deep longing of man.

The Dangri, the Deepka, the Jhanjar, Pangi and Sangla are

the different dances, each with its own characteristics of this mountain state.

Dances of the South. Coming down from the Himalayan heights to the South, another landscape presents itself, both in vegetation and traditions. One of the most important dances of Kerala is the Kathakali done by the Mopla Muslims to songs dedicated to Hindu gods and heroines.

The Kolkali is done in pairs which can vary from 8 to 40. Then there is the Velakkali, the war dance of Kerala done only by the Nairs. The Velkali is the reenactment of the battle of Kurusketra in which the Nairs take the part of Kauravas while the Pandavas are represented by mammoth wooden effigies which are installed on the roadside.

The Kuravanti is a folk dance from Tamilnad considered to be the forerunner of the classical dance, Bharat Natyam. These and many other dances depict the life of the people of the South.

Gujarat Styles. Coming up the coast into Gujarat, the Garba emerges as the most popular folk dance of this part of India. The Garba takes its name after the motive lamp or pot which is installed in the centre, round which the dancers make a circle and dance in honour of Kali or Durga, who is revered in Gujarat as Amba Mata.

The lamp is the symbol of her power. Sometimes all the dancers carry lighted pots on their heads. The Garba is done throughout the year but it is during the nine day festival of Navratri when there is not a street in a village or town of Gujarat when women are not swirling around in praise of the Goddess Amba. The other popular dance of Gujarat is the Ras, done mainly by men but women also sometimes join it.

The dancers carry short sticks in their hands and in a circle keep time with the songs which are dedicated to Krishna and his consort, Radha.

Maharashtra, known for its martial traditions, is rich in dances, both depicting the warlike spirit and also the religious fervor of the people. The most developed folk dance of Maharashtra is Washavatar which is dance-drama.

It has great antiquity. But the most popular folk dance of this region is the Lezim (small mallet) dance. This is done with varied and complicated movements, keeping perfect time with the Lezim which is swung in four or eight counts.

Madhya Pradesh, known for its aboriginal tribes, the Bhils, the Banjaras, the Gond and others, has a repertoire that perhaps is unbeaten by any other region. The tribal people dance to exercise the evil spirits, kill the demon and to worship the deity.

Bhangra and Ghoomra. But the dance that has become most popular in the North of India is perhaps the Bhangra of the Punjab. It is a harvest dance; the farmers having finished the whole cycle of cultivation feel free and happy.

Dressed in starched turbans with high plumes, with jewelry around their necks, they make a circle and then they dance with the abandon of one sure that the land will repay the toil of man. While the dancers lose themselves, the drummer pounds on the drum as if drunk with the spirit of the harvest season.

Wrestlers Leave For Mexico



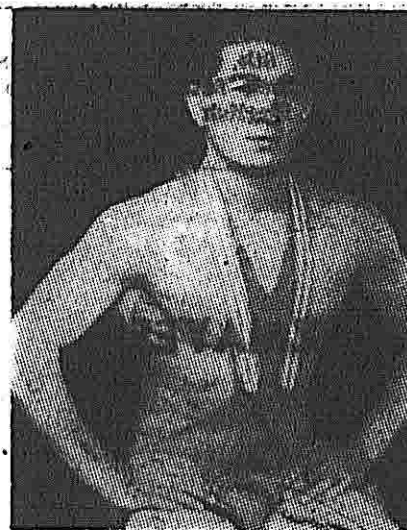
Ahmad Jan



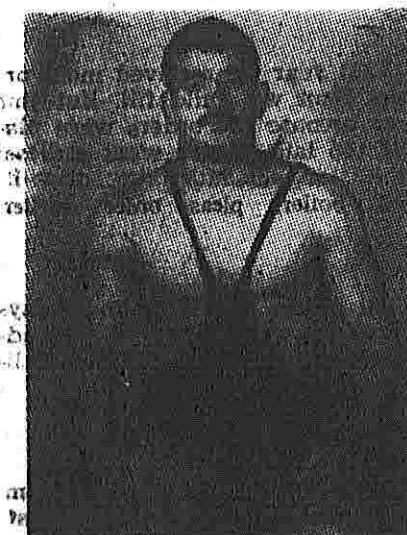
Ghulam Dastagir



Jan Aqa



Mohammad Ibrahim



Mohammad Qayum Ayub

An Afghan wrestling team headed by Mohammad Farooq Seraj, the secretary-general of Afghan Olympic Association, departed Kabul for Mexico yesterday to take part in the Olympic Games there.

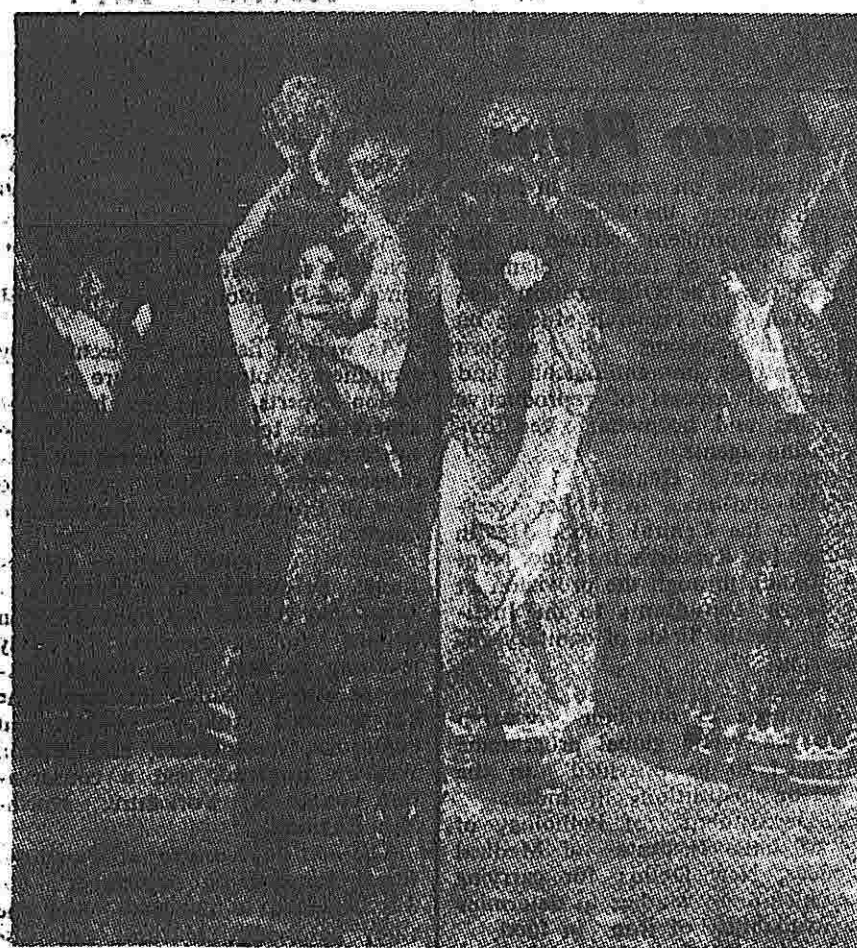
The members of the team are Mohammad Ibrahim (champion), Ahmad Jan, Mohammad Qayum Ayub, Jan Aqa and Ghulam Dastagir.

The wrestlers were named participants in the Olympic Games after they defeated other Kabul wrestlers in a series of qualifying contests held by Afghan Olympic Association over the past two months.

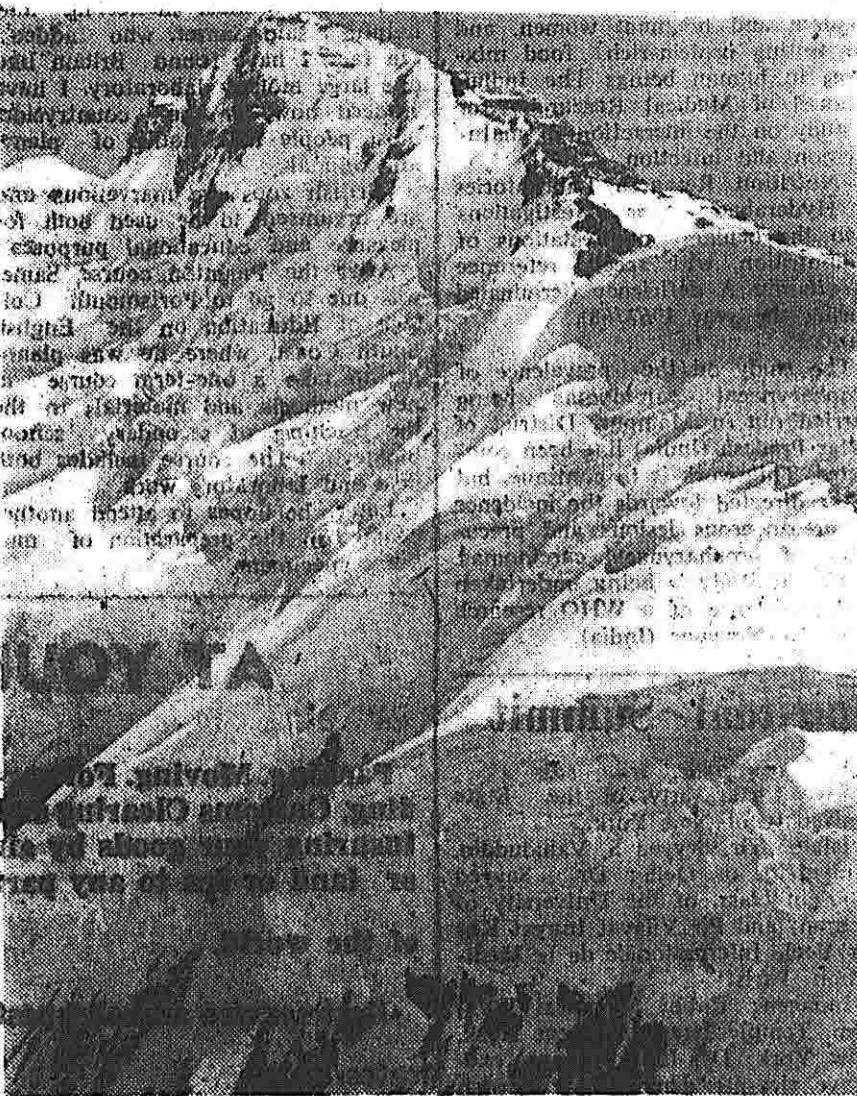
Mohammad Ibrahim, champion, who is in the third weight class, distinguished himself in the Tokyo Olympics. This is his 4th time participating in international contests.

Ahmad Jan is a new to the Olympics, but this marks the third appearance of Jan Aqa in international contest.

Qayum, who became champion of the 5th class in qualifying contests, weighs 78 kg and is a very young wrestler. Ghulam Dastagir is the champion of the 6th class and has a weight 81 kg.



Garba—a folk dance of Gujarat.



The 6902-metre, Mount Dosar, until recently highest yet unclimbed peak of Hindu Kush, was climbed by a four-member Polish team of amateur mountaineers.

